

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am signing Senate Bill 897 which extends the effective date of the California trade office in Yerevan, Armenia. I am an enthusiastic supporter of promotion activities for California products and services. The state's trade office in Armenia holds the promise of new trade opportunities in an emerging market and does so without taxpayer funds.

I am hopeful that the same bipartisan supporters of this bill will join with me next year in support of additional privately-funded offices in countries that are California's leading trade and cultural partners.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger